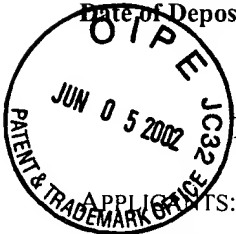


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PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (Cura-77)

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6/19/02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646
FOR: Growth Factor Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This filing in response to the December 5, 2001, Office Action ("Office Action") is due on or before June 5, 2002, with the enclosed three month extension of time. Prior to examination, please make the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace pending claims 1-5 with the following amended claims:

- A1
Sul
B3
1. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4;
 - b) a mature form of amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4;
 - c) a variant of a mature form of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; and
 - d) a fragment of the amino acid sequence described in a) to c).
 2. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is a FCTR2 fragment of a FCTR_X polypeptide.
 3. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is a naturally occurring allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:4.